

WACHUSETT REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

HOLDEN ♦ PAXTON ♦ PRINCETON ♦ RUTLAND ♦ STERLING

Minutes

Regular Meeting #1217 Monday, April 9, 2012

Media Center
Wachusett Regional High School

Committee Members Present:

Duncan Leith, Chair	Stacey Jackson
Joseph Sova, Vice-chair	Julianne Kelley
Cynthia Bazinet	Deidre Kosky
Carmelo Bazzano	James Mason
Colleen Cipro	Norman Plourde
William Clute	Robert Remillard
Steven Hammond	Michelle Sciabarrasi
Lance Harris	Dawn Torres-Gale
Robert Imber	Margaret Watson

Committee Members Absent:

Robert Pelczarski	Athas Tsongalis
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Administration Present:

Thomas G. Pandiscio, Superintendent of Schools
Peter Brennan, Business Manager
Kelley Gangi, Director of Curriculum
Darryll McCall, Director of Operations
Susan Sullivan, Director of Human Resources
Rebecca Petersen, Executive Secretary to the Superintendent

Student Representatives Present:

Tyler Gibbs	Jonathan Latino
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Others present, who desired to be recorded as present (see attached Attendance Sheet – (attachment 1).

Chair Leith called the regular meeting of the School Committee to order at 7:04 PM.

I. Public Hearing

No members of the public wished to address the Committee.

II. Secretary's Report

A. Approval of Minutes of Annual Budget Hearing held on March 26, 2012

Motion: To approve the minutes of the Annual Budget Hearing held March 26, 2012.

(N. Plourde)
(R. Imber)

The minutes of the Annual Budget Hearing held March 26, 2012 were approved, by consensus, with Member Bazzano abstaining.

- B. Approval of 1216th Regular Meeting Minutes of the Wachusett Regional School District Committee held on March 26, 2012

Motion: To approve the minutes of the regular School Committee meeting held March 26, 2012.

(J. Sova)
(S. Hammond)

The minutes of the regular School Committee meeting held March 26, 2012 were approved, by consensus, with Member Bazzano abstaining.

III. Treasurer's Report/Financial Statements

Chair Leith reminded the Committee that if there were questions regarding the Business Manager's report that members should contact the Superintendent; if there were questions regarding the Treasurer's Report, members should contact the Business/Finance Subcommittee Chair.

IV. Committee Reports

- A. Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Leith reported the School Committee will vote on the Superintendent's evaluation at the second regularly scheduled School Committee meeting in April.

Chair Leith reported that Member Plourde has suggested seeking Member Town/town recreation committees/departments support to not schedule spring sports teams' games or practices the nights of Member Town Annual Town Meetings. Although the School Committee/District cannot tell the towns when to schedule, or not, various activities, Chair Leith agreed it would be beneficial to encourage towns to consider the dates and times of the five Annual Town Meetings when preparing spring sports schedules.

Chair Leith asked members to let him know if they would be willing to represent the School Committee at the Annual Town Meetings.

- B. Student Representatives (Tyler Gibbs and Jonathan Latino)

Student Representative Gibbs reported on the recent spring musical production, that April break is just one week away, and that on the walls in the area of the Guidance Department one can find continually updated lists of what the members of the senior class are planning to do upon graduation.

Student Representative Latino's report consisted of the fact that seniors have 27 days left before they conclude their high school experience!

- C. Management Subcommittee (D. Leith, Chair, J. Sova, Vice-chair, C. Bazinet, C. Cipro, S. Hammond, R. Imber, J. Kelley, N. Plourde, M. Sciabarrasi, M. Watson)

Chair Leith reported the Management Subcommittee met just before this School Committee meeting, to approve subcommittee meeting minutes and the subcommittee's Superintendent's evaluation narrative. Chair Leith also reported that Management's action on P5234.1 Policy Relating to Personnel Management Employee Use of Information Technology was deferred, but should be considered a top priority for the Management Subcommittee to be named when the new School Committee is in place after the May annual town elections.

7:10 PM Jonathan Latino left the meeting.

- D. Education Subcommittee (S. Hammond, Chair, S. Jackson, Vice-chair, C. Bazinet, L. Harris, R. Imber, R. Pelczarski, N. Plourde, D. Torres-Gale, M. Watson)

1. Amended Policy – AP6531 Policy Relating to Pupil Services Student Internet Access – first reading

Subcommittee Chair Hammond explained the intent of the suggested amendments, before reading aloud the amended policy. Note was made that “age-appropriate” should be a hyphenated word.

Motion: To approve the first reading of AP6531 Policy Relating to Pupil Services Student Internet Access.

(S. Hammond)
(C. Bazinet)

Vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Joseph Sova
Cynthia Bazinet
Carmelo Bazzano

Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
James Mason
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

2. Amended Policy – AP3311.31 **Policy Relating to Education Online Education Policy** – first reading

Motion: To approve the first reading of AP3311.31 **Policy Relating to Education Online Education Policy**.

(S. Hammond)

(C. Bazinet)

Subcommittee Chair Hammond read aloud the amended policy, explaining the title of the policy should be ONLINE COURSE POLICY (incorrectly typed as ONLINE EDUCATION POLICY). Following discussion about the amended language and questions raised about funding/payment of online courses, the motion was withdrawn by the maker and seconder, and action on amending this policy was deferred.

3. Policy Deletion – P3431 **Policy Relating to Education Audio-Visual Materials** – first reading

Motion: To approve the first reading to delete P3431 **Policy Relating to Education Audio-Visual Materials**.

(S. Hammond)

(C. Bazinet)

Vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith

Joseph Sova

Cynthia Bazinet
Carmelo Bazzano
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
James Mason
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

Motion passed unanimously.

Education Subcommittee Chair Hammond reported there are no plans for this subcommittee to meet between now and the end of May.

- E. Business/Finance Subcommittee (J. Sova, Chair, R. Remillard, Vice-chair, C. Cipro, W. Clute, D. Leith, M. Sciabarrasi, D. Torres-Gale, A. Tsongalis)

Subcommittee Chair Sova reported this subcommittee will meet April 10, 2012 to review the subcommittee's Superintendent's evaluation narrative and for distribution of the Business Manager's evaluation instrument. A meeting of this subcommittee will be posted for 6:15 PM on Monday, April 23rd, just before the next regular School Committee meeting.

1. WRSD Educational Foundation Trust

No activities to report.

- F. Community Outreach Subcommittee (M. Sciabarrasi, Chair, A. Tsongalis, Vice-chair, C. Bazzano, L. Harris, J. Mason, R. Pelczarski, M. Watson)

Subcommittee Chair Sciabarrasi reported this subcommittee had met just before this School Committee meeting to review the Superintendent's evaluation narrative. Subcommittee Chair

Sciabarrasi reported there are no plans for this subcommittee to meet between now and the end of May.

G. Audit Advisory Board (J. Sova, J. Mason)

The Audit Advisory Board has not met since the last School Committee meeting.

H. Ad-Hoc Subcommittees

1. Ad Hoc Subcommittee to Develop a Social Media Policy (S. Hammond, J. Kelley, Student Representatives Tyler Gibbs and Jonathan Latino, and other non-School Committee members)

1. Draft Policy – DP6531.1 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services Social Media** – first reading

Ad Hoc Subcommittee Chair Hammond reminded members they had been provided with a copy of the draft policy in advance of this meeting in order to allow sufficient time for review of and comment on the draft language. Ad Hoc Subcommittee Chair Hammond read aloud the draft policy.

Motion: To approve the first reading of DP6531.1 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services Social Media**.

(S. Hammond)
(J. Sova)

Member Watson made comment that the introductory paragraph of the draft policy is extraneous and she made a friendly amendment to strike the first paragraph, under Section I: Introduction, of the draft policy.

Motion: To strike the following from DP6531.1: *“The 21st century may be defined by the scope of the problems that humanity needs to solve. Solving these complex problems requires collaboration, not only among people with diverse skill sets within an organization, but also through extrinsic partnerships. Collaboration is also essential among those who have worked on similar problems in the past and those who will tackle even more complex problems in the future.”*

(M. Watson)
(J. Mason)

Vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Joseph Sova

Cynthia Bazinet
Carmelo Bazzano
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
James Mason
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
Steven Hammond

Motion passed 17-1.

Motion: To approve the first reading of DP6531.1 **Policy Relating to Pupil Services Social Media**, as amended.

(S. Hammond)
(J. Sova)

Vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Joseph Sova
Cynthia Bazinet
Carmelo Bazzano
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
James Mason
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:

None

Motion passed unanimously.

I. Building Committees

1. Mountview Building Committee (M. Watson)

Member Watson and Superintendent Pandiscio gave an update on progress being made on this project.

2. Green Repair School Building Committee (D. Leith)

At Chair Leith's request, Business Manager Brennan gave an update on progress being made on these three projects.

J. School Council Reports:

Central Tree Middle School (C. Cipro), Chocksett Middle School (J. Sova), Davis Hill Elementary School (S. Jackson), Dawson Elementary School (C. Bazzano), Glenwood Elementary School (A. Tsongalis), Houghton Elementary School (N. Plourde), Mayo Elementary School (M. Watson), Mountview Middle School (S. Hammond), Naquag Elementary School (J. Kelley), Paxton Center School (W. Clute), Thomas Prince School (R. Imber/M. Sciabarrasi), Wachusett Regional High School (C. Bazinet/M. Sciabarrasi), Special Education Parent Advisory Council (S. Jackson), Early Childhood Center (S. Jackson)

Member Kelley – Naquag Elementary School Autism Awareness Day

Member Jackson – Glenwood Elementary School “We are Glenwood/We are one”

Member Jackson – SEPAC is accepting nominations for the third annual *Wind Beneath Their Wings* awards. The awards ceremony will be held Tuesday, May 22, 2012.

Member Cipro – Central Tree Middle School

Member Imber – Thomas Prince School

Member Sciabarrasi – March 29th art show at Thomas Prince School

V. Superintendent's Report

A. Discussion of Report

Member Jackson asked if the Town of Sterling had named a representative to sit on a Revenue Sharing Task Force.

There was lengthy discussion about the FY13 budget, debating the scope of the budget, what towns may, or may not, be able to afford, and the stand the School Committee should take. Most members participated in this discussion.

8:16 PM Member Cipro left the table.

At Member Bazzano's request, Superintendent Pandiscio explained the school choice process, the deadline for applications, and how the lottery is conducted.

8:20 PM Member Cipro returned to the table.

Discussion about school choice ensued.

The topic of the FY13 budget was re-raised and discussion continued.

B. Recommendations Requiring Action by the School Committee

1. To support, in principle, the District assessing the Town of Princeton \$100,000 in FY12 (for the cost of transporting Princeton students, grades 3 – 5, to Glenwood Elementary School during school year 2011-2012) and returning approximately \$55,000 next year as a credit against their FY13 assessment.

Superintendent Pandiscio clearly explained the purpose of this recommendation and answered the few questions asked.

Motion: To support, in principle, the District assessing the Town of Princeton \$100,000 in FY12 (for the cost of transporting Princeton students, grades 3 – 5, to Glenwood Elementary School during school year 2011-2012) and returning approximately \$55,000 next year as a credit against their FY13 assessment.

(J. Kelley)

(S. Jackson)

Roll call vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Joseph Sova
Cynthia Bazinet
Carmelo Bazzano
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber

Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley
Deidre Kosky
James Mason
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Public Hearing

No members of the public wished to address the School Committee.

VII. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business brought before the School Committee.

VIII. New Business

At Member Watson's inquiry, it was confirmed that principals are aware of P6637 (Animals in Schools), which the Committee adopted in December 2011.

IX. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn.

(J. Mason)
(R. Imber)

Vote:

In favor:

Duncan Leith
Joseph Sova
Cynthia Bazinet
Carmelo Bazzano
Colleen Cipro
William Clute
Steven Hammond
Lance Harris
Robert Imber
Stacey Jackson
Julianne Kelley

Deidre Kosky
James Mason
Norman Plourde
Robert Remillard
Michelle Sciabarrasi
Dawn Torres-Gale
Margaret Watson

Opposed:
None

Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas G. Pandiscio, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

TGP:rlp